

National Aeronautics and Space Administration  
Headquarters  
Washington, DC 20546-0001



April 2, 2007

Reply to Attn of:

General Law Practice Group

TO: Distribution

FROM: Alternate Designated Agency Ethics Official

SUBJECT: Determination Regarding Attendance by NASA Employees at the National Air and Space Museum Reception on April 4, 2007

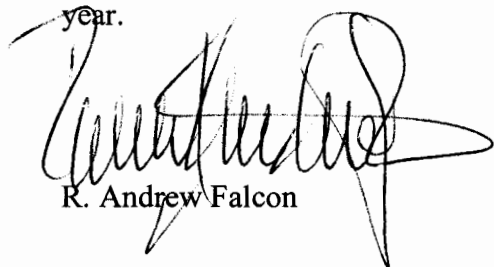
On April 4, 2007, Lockheed Martin Corp., Ball Aerospace & Technologies Corp., The Boeing Company, Science Applications International Corp., The Raytheon Company, Computer Sciences Corp., General Dynamics Corp., Harris Corp., Southwest Research Institute, American Astronomical Society, and Global Science and Technology, Inc. will sponsor a reception at the Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum in Washington, DC from 7:00 to 10 p.m.

Dr. John Mather, 2006 Nobel Laureate in Physics will be the guest speaker and there will be a special viewing of the planetarium show *Cosmic Collisions*. The reception will be widely attended by representatives from other Federal agencies, members of Congress and their staffers, aerospace industry and associations, and members of the public. Approximately 1200 individuals have been invited to the reception. The estimated cost of the reception, which includes all food and beverages, is \$70 per person. I find that this event meets the requirements of a "widely attended gathering" as defined in 5 CFR § 2635.204(g).

I further determine that there is an Agency interest in having NASA personnel attend the event because it will further Agency programs or operations. The reception will allow NASA employees the opportunity to gather an understanding of space weather and its effects on life and society and discuss this with other attendees. Accordingly, NASA employees whose duties do not substantially affect any of the sponsors may accept an invitation for free attendance to the reception.

However, NASA employees whose duties may substantially affect any of the sponsors, such as by way of procurement duties, should seek an individual determination pursuant to 5 C.F.R. § 2635.204(g)(3)(i) regarding participation in this event from their local ethics counselor.

In addition, the sponsors will give each attendee a gift valued at approximately \$8 each. Attendees are reminded of the \$20 gift exception at 5 C.F.R. §2635.204(a) which provides that employees may accept gifts valued at no more than \$20 per occasion. Accordingly, in addition to accepting free attendance at the event, NASA employees may accept this gift bag. NASA invitees are reminded not to exceed the \$50 cap on gifts from one source in a calendar year.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Andrew Falcon', with a large, stylized flourish extending from the end of the signature.

R. Andrew Falcon